

Statement-III*State-wise Leptospirosis cases and deaths (Upto Oct., 06)*

SI. No	State	2004		2005		2006	
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1.	Gujarat	530	70	389	80	655	121
2.	Maharashtra	225	18	2361	167	763	50
3.	Kerala	1453	75	1656	92	1303	84
4.	Karnataka	149	6	224	19	91	4
5.	Andaman					76	26
6.	Tamil Nadu	3142	3	3817	Nil		

Connecting Buddhist centres by rail lines

*156. SHRIPRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is aware that 2550th anniversary of Buddha's MAHAPARINIRVAN is being celebrated by Government;

(b) whether there is any request for operation of special tourist trains to link Buddhist pilgrim centres during this year; and

(c) if so, the actions being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Revival of SSIs in Gujarat

*157. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposed to give any financial package and incentives for revival of sick SSIs in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the funds allocated for the purpose for the current year;

(c) the result achieved, so far; and

(d) the total number of SSIs in the State and the number of those which were sick as on 31st March, 2006?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Small Scale Industries (SSI) does not provide any direct financial assistance for rehabilitation of sick SSIs. Financial assistance, by way of debt restriction, including fresh loans, for the rehabilitation of sick SSI units is provided by the primary lending institutions (PLI), including commercial banks, which provide credit to the SSI. For this purpose, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued detailed guidelines to banks in January, 2002 on detection of sickness in SSI at an early stage and taking remedial measures and for rehabilitation of sick SSI units identified as potentially viable.

RBI has issued fresh guidelines on 8th September 2005, based on the "Policy Package for Stepping up Credit to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)" announced by the Central Government on 10th August, 2005. These guidelines relate, *inter alia*, to viability criteria, prudential norms for restructured accounts, provision of additional finance and time frame for working out the restructuring package and its implementation.

Banks have been advised by the RBI to review the progress of rehabilitation and restructuring of SME accounts on a quarterly basis. The State Level Inter-Institutional Committee (SLUG), set up in each State under the convenorship of the RBI representative, also monitors, *inter alia*, the implementation of these guidelines.

(d) The total number of SSIs (both registered and unregistered) in Gujarat as at the end of March 2006 was estimated to be 6,24,300. As per the latest data compiled by the RBI from the scheduled commercial banks, the number of sick SSI units in Gujarat as at the end of March 2005 was 3,461.

Per capita availability of rice and kerosene oil

†*158. SHRIJAIPARKASHAGGARWAL:

DR.PRABHATHAKUR:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.